

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal;

a signal processing device for processing the image signal, the signal processing device including:

a first signal processor that implements a signal process of the image signal and outputs to a first display device the processed image signal with a first television signal format having a first resolution; and

a first connector adapted for connecting the signal processing device to a second signal processor; [[and]]

an option substrate having the second signal processor and a second connector for connecting the second signal processor to the signal processing device via the first connector, the second signal processor implements the signal process of the image signal and outputs to a second display device the processed image signal with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution; and

a connection detector for detecting a connection of the second connector with the first connector and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, and a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

10. (Currently Amended) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal; [[and]]

a signal processing device for processing the image signal, the signal processing device including a first signal processor that implements a signal process of the image signal and outputs to a first display device the processed image signal with a first television signal format having a first resolution, and a connector; [[and]]

a second signal processor detachably connected to the connector, the second signal processor implementing the signal process of the image signal and outputting to a second display device the processed image signal with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution; and

a connection detector for detecting a connection of the second signal processor with the connector and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, and a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

11. (Currently Amended) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal; [[and]]

a signal processing device including a first signal processor for processing the image signal, a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first television signal format having a first resolution, a first output for outputting to a first display device the image signal processed by the second signal processor and a connector; [[and]]

a signal processing section detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution, and a second output for outputting to a second display device the processed image signal by the third signal processor; and

a connection detector for detecting a connection of the connector with the signal processing section and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

12. (Previously Presented) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the signal processing section is provided with a substrate.

13. (Previously Presented) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the first signal processor includes an A/D converter for converting the image signal into a digital signal, and the signal processing section includes only a secondary circuit which is insulated from the A/D converter.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim ~~[[14]]~~ 12, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

16. (Currently Amended) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processor that implements a signal process of an image signal and outputs to a first display device the processed image signal with a first television signal format having a first resolution;

a second signal processor, which implements the signal process of the image signal and outputs to a second display device the processed image signal with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution; ~~[[and]]~~

a connector adapted for connecting to the second signal processor; and

a connection detector for detecting a connection of the second signal processor with the first signal processor and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, and a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

17. (Currently Amended) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processor that implements a signal process of an image signal and outputs to a first display device the processed image signal with a first television signal format having a first resolution;

a connector; [[and]]

a second signal processor detachably connected to the connector, the second signal processor implementing the signal process of the image signal and outputting to a second display device the processed image signal with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution; and

a connection detector for detecting a connection of the second signal processor with the first signal processor and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, and a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

18. (Currently Amended) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processor for processing an image signal;

a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first television signal format having a first resolution;

a first output for outputting to a first display device the image signal processed by the second signal processor;

a connector; [[and]]

a signal processing section detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution, and a second output for outputting to a second display device the processed image signal by the third signal processor; and

a connection detector for detecting a connection of the signal processing section with the connector and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, and a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

19. (Previously Presented) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the signal processing section is provided with a substrate.

20. (Previously Presented) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the first signal processor includes an A/D converter for converting the image signal into a digital signal, and the signal processing section includes only a secondary circuit which is insulated from the A/D converter.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim ~~[[21]]~~ 18, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

23. (Currently Amended) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal; [[and]]

a signal processing means for processing the image signal, the signal processing means including

a first signal processing means for processing the image signal and outputting to a first display device the processed image signal with a first television signal format having a first resolution,

a second signal processing means for processing the image signal and outputting to a second display device the processed image signal with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution, and

a connecting means to which the second signal processing means for is detachably connected; and

a connection detector for detecting a connection of the second signal processing means with the first signal processing means and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, and a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

24. (Currently Amended) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processing means for processing an image signal and outputting to a first display device the processed image signal with a first television signal format having a first resolution;

a second signal processing means for processing the image signal and outputting to a second display device the processed image signal with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution; [[and]]

a connecting means to which the second signal processing means is detachably connected; and

a connection detector for detecting a connection of the second signal processing means with the first signal processing means and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, and a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

25. (New) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal;

a signal processing device including a first signal processor for processing the image signal, a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first television signal format having a first resolution, a first output for outputting to a first display device the image signal processed by the second signal processor and a connector; and

a signal processing section detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution, and a second output for outputting to a second display device the processed image signal by the third signal processor,

the first signal processor including an A/D converter for converting the image signal into a digital signal, and the signal processing section including only a secondary circuit which is insulated from the A/D converter.

26. (New) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal;

a signal processing device including a first signal processor for processing the image signal, a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first television signal format having a first resolution, a first output for outputting to a first display device the image signal processed by the second signal processor and a connector;

a signal processing section provided to a substrate detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution, and a second output for outputting to a second display device the processed image signal by the third signal processor; and

a connector detector for detecting a connection of the connector with the substrate and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

27. (New) An electronic endoscope apparatus comprising:

an endoscope including an image pick-up device for converting a subject image into an image signal;

a signal processing device including a first signal processor for processing the image signal, a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first television signal format having a first resolution, a first output for outputting to a first display device the image signal processed by the second signal processor and a connector;

a signal processing section provided to a substrate detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution, and a second output for outputting to a second display device the processed image signal by the third signal processor; and

a connector detector for detecting a connection of the connector with the substrate and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

the character information generating section changing a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

28. (New) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processor for processing an image signal;

a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first television signal format having a first resolution;

a first output for outputting to a first display device the image signal processed by the second signal processor;

a connector; and

a signal processing section detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution, and a second output for outputting to a second display device the processed image signal by the third signal processor,

the first signal processor including an A/D converter for converting the image signal into a digital signal, and the signal processing section including only a secondary circuit which is insulated from the A/D converter.

29. (New) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processor for processing an image signal;

a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first television signal format having a first resolution;

a first output for outputting to a first display device the image signal processed by the second signal processor;

a connector;

a signal processing section provided to a substrate detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution, and a second output for outputting to a second display device the processed image signal by the third signal processor; and

a connector detector for detecting a connection of the connector with the substrate and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section.

30. (New) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a first signal processor for processing an image signal;

a second signal processor that implements a signal process of the processed image signal by the first signal processor in accordance with a first television signal format having a first resolution,

a first output for outputting to a first display device the image signal processed by the second signal processor;

a connector;

a signal processing section provided to a substrate detachably connected to the connector, the signal processing section including a third signal processor that implements the signal process of the image signal processed by the first signal processor in accordance with a second television signal format having a second resolution that is higher than the first resolution, and a second output for outputting to a second display device the processed image signal by the third signal processor; and

a connector detector for detecting a connection of the connector with the substrate and notifying a user of the connection, the connection detector including a connection detecting section that detects the connection, a character information generating section that changes a displayed character information based on a signal from the connection detecting section,

the character information generating section changing a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

31. (New) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

32. (New) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

33. (New) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

34. (New) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

35. (New) The electronic endoscope apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.

36. (New) The signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 24, wherein the character information generating section changes a displayed menu screen based on the signal from the connection detecting section.